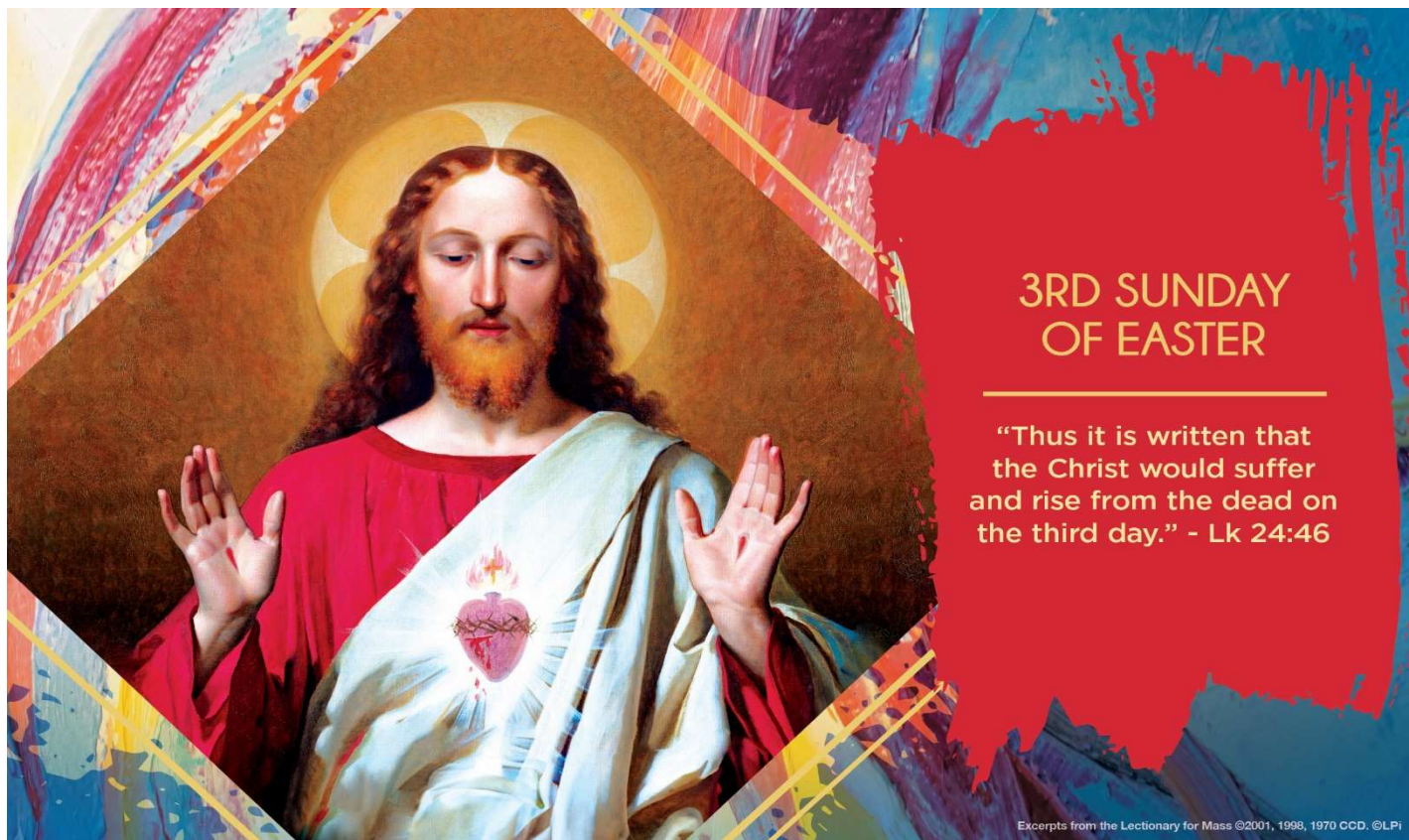




FATHER FRANCIS XAVIER PIERZ

AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

"Thus it is written that
the Christ would suffer
and rise from the dead on
the third day." - Lk 24:46

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY

7:00 p.m. – St. John Nepomuk Lastrup

WEDNESDAY

8:00 a.m. – Holy Cross Harding

THURSDAY

7:00 a.m. – St. Michael's Buckman

FRIDAY

8:30 a.m. – St. Joseph's Pierz

SATURDAY

4:00 p.m. – St. John Nepomuk Lastrup

6:00 p.m. – Holy Cross Harding

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. – St. Michael's Buckman

10:00 a.m. – St. Joseph's Pierz

****See inside cover for any changes for the upcoming week**

APRIL 14th, 2024
3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 3:30 p.m. St John Nepomuk Lastrup

SUNDAY: 7:30 a.m. St. Michael's Buckman

Confession Times: *30 minutes before Pierz, Harding and Lastrup
weekday Masses, 30 minutes after Buckman Mass, and by appt.

*First Weekend of the Month: After 6 p.m. Mass at Holy Cross
Harding and after 10 a.m. Mass at St Joseph's Pierz

Fr. Aaron Nett, Pastor: 320-468-6033, frnett@midco.net

Deacon Craig Korver: ckorver@molschool.org

Deacon Leo Wehseler: leowehseler@gmail.com

St. John/Holy Cross Office: 320-360-9720, ltthesing@hotmail.com

St. Joseph/St. Michael Office: 320-468-6033, stjoes@midco.net

April 14, 2024
3rd Sunday of Easter

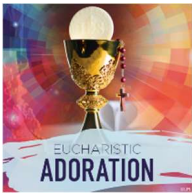
When I was a kid, a friend at my home parish told me, “If you get to Mass by the Gospel reading, it counts!” As a lifelong late-arriver, it’s something I have told myself many times, especially in my earlier years as a Catholic. If the “it counts” is justifiable on a pathetically minimal scale of liturgical legalism, then the Gospel reading today shows how insanely wrong-headed it is, and how helpful it is to re-think the Mass in its light.

The famous “Road to Emmaus” story recounts, on that first Sunday of the Resurrection, the basic two-fold structure of the Mass: Word, followed by Eucharist. Jesus spends a significant period of time with two dismayed disciples, as he connects a wide swath of the Hebrew scriptures with his own suffering, death, and resurrection. They would later report that this Liturgy of the Word touched their hearts with an inexplicable fire. This Word-induced flame alone is what leads the two disciples to discover Jesus’ presence in the “breaking of the bread.”

With this in mind, how can we possibly think that the Liturgy of the Word is unnecessary or incidental? The two disciples needed the Scriptures explained to them in order to experience Jesus alive in the eucharistic breaking of bread. Sure, we say, but they had the Risen Jesus. But that’s precisely the point: Jesus is risen and accompanies us in both parts of the Mass. Imagine how much our experience of Jesus in the Eucharist would deepen if we (preachers and listeners) took even more seriously that Jesus himself sets our hearts ablaze with his Word so that we know him in the Eucharist. That Word-induced fire counts, too!

— Father John Muir

**This is a message taken from our online bulletin library*

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 16 – APRIL 21	
<p><u>Tuesday, April 16</u> 7:00 p.m. Lastrup +Virgil Weiss</p> <p><u>Wednesday, April 17</u> 8:00 a.m. Harding +Jack Skochenski 7-8 p.m. Buckman Eucharistic Adoration</p> <p><u>Thursday, April 18</u> 7:00 a.m. Buckman +Gloria Lanners 10:00 a.m. Villa +Clarence Meyer</p> <p><u>Friday, April 19</u> – HT School Mass (Mrs. Becker’s Kindergarten Class) 8:30 a.m. Pierz +Ed & Laura Kapsner 3-6:00 p.m. Pierz Eucharistic Adoration</p> <p><u>Saturday, April 20</u> – First Communion in Harding 4:00 p.m. Lastrup +Ramona Virnig 6:00 p.m. Harding For the People of the Parishes</p> <p><u>Sunday, April 21</u> – First Communion in Buckman 8:00 a.m. Buckman Fr. Migel Gonzalez (Spiritual Director at NCCW) 10:00 a.m. Pierz +John Gast & Andrea & King Families</p>	<p>*Weekday Masses When There is a Funeral: Going forward, when there is a funeral, the regular scheduled weekday Mass will still take place.</p> <p><u>Pierz & Buckman Office Hours:</u> Located in Pierz. Mon, Tue, Thurs. 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Fridays closed. <u>Lastrup & Harding Office Hours:</u> Call 320-360-9720</p> <p>*Emergency Contact: If you have an emergency and need a priest, please call Teresa at 320-360-9720.</p> <p>*Bulletin Announcement Deadline: The deadline for submissions of bulletin announcements is Mondays at 3 p.m. You can email stjoes@midco.net, mail PO Box 428, Pierz MN 56364, or call 320-468-6033.</p>
 <p>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION St Joseph Pierz – Fridays 3-6 p.m. St. Michael Buckman – Wednesdays 7-8 p.m. and the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Holy Cross Harding – Adoration chapel always open</p>	<p>*If you are seeking information on baptism, marriage, or RCIA preparation or would like to sign up as a new member of the parish, please call 320-468-6033 (Pierz and Buckman) or 320-360-9720 (Lastrup & Harding).</p>

“When you are before the altar where Christ reposes, you ought no longer to think that you are amongst men; but believe that there are troops of angels and archangels standing by you, and trembling with respect before the sovereign Master of Heaven and earth. Therefore, when you are in church, be there in silence, fear, and veneration.” ~St. John Chrysostom

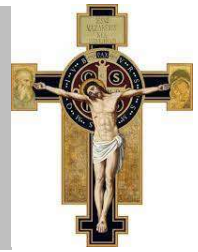
ST. JOHN NEPOMUK

28520 Church St., PO BOX 38
Lastrup, MN 56344
Phone: 320-360-9720
E-mail: ltthesing@hotmail.com
Website: www.stjohnlastrup.org



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

29482 243rd Street
Pierz, MN 56364
Phone: 320-360-9720
E-mail: ltthesing@hotmail.com
Website: www.Hardingchurch.org



SATURDAY, APRIL 20 at 4:00 p.m.

Lector: Dale Beierman

Server: Brittney Schommer

Ushers: Donny Schommer & Allen Welle

E. Minister (Choir): Carol Welle

BAR BINGO NEWS: Come to the Fisch House in Lastrup to play bingo every Monday evening at 5:30 p.m. Please come and join us for a fun evening. The jackpot numbers will be posted online and at the Fisch House and also on their Facebook page. St. John's gaming #02115.

MEAT RAFFLE: We now have a meat raffle at the Fisch House every Sunday at 5:00 PM. Please join us for some fun and try and win some meat. St. John's Gaming #02115.

RAFFLE: Be sure to get your raffle tickets for the May 4th raffle. Lots of great cash prizes. Tickets available from any parish member or call the office (320-360-9720) and we will get some to you! Thank you.

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

***Saturday, April 6th:** Adult env. \$933.00, Adult loose \$126.52, Easter \$1,170.00, Children loose \$51.41.

Mass attendance: 184

SATURDAY, APRIL 20 at 6:00 p.m.

Lector: Will Corbett

Servers: Adam Woitalla & Tyler Thesing

Ushers: Dave Skwira & Gary Matlock

E. Minister (Choir): Doug Knopik

Rosary: Ted Boser

HOLY CROSS WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

***Saturday, April 6th:** Adult env. \$1,188.00, Adult loose \$142.50, Children env. \$2.50. Easter Adult \$770.

Mass attendance: 93

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR LASTRUP & HARDING: Jeremy Girtz, Diane Schirmers, Mark, Becker, Olivia Waldorf, Pat (Rod) Boser, Jane Weiss, Alice Matlock, Kurt Lucking, Sally Lentner, Lois Woitalla, Rhys Boser, Carmen Britz, Doris Weiss, Mary Ann Schomer, Justin Lindgren, Aaron Boser, Ione Hoskins, Gerard Virnig, Serena Truskowski, Gina Virnig, Donny Schommer, Scott Bednar, Jerod Bursch.

ACC Faith Study Groups

*Bible study is being offered every other Sunday evening for the young female youth (9th grade and older) of our ACC. This is held in the St Joseph Church basement at 7:00 pm. If you are interested in attending or have any questions, please call Jenny (320-360-6650), Kari (320-412-6164), or Rebecca (320-360-7004).

*Man Accountability: Men of all parishes, give us the honors of joining us on Saturdays from 6:45-8AM at the Pierz parish office for Gospel prayer, Acts 2:42, and accountability. Iron sharpens iron! Questions/reminders please text/call Mark Loidolt, 701-388-2323.

*Women's Group meets on Saturday mornings from 8:15-9:30 a.m. We'll meet in St. Joseph's church at 8:15 to pray a rosary followed by discussion in the parish office until 9:30. All women are welcome! Call or text Cari Stumpf with any questions, 320-761-6336.

*The Sunday Night Adult Education Group meets on Sunday night at 7PM in the Pierz parish office meeting room. We watch a short video on a variety of Catholic topics followed by a discussion. For more information, call Al Pekarek at 468-0220.

2024 STAR OF THE NORTH
Eucharistic Congress
MAY 17-19, 2024
TRAVEL ORGANIZED BY JERICHO CHRISTIAN JOURNEYS
ESCORTED BY FR. JEREMY PLOOF

Conference
Friday - Bishop Barron, music, Holy Hour, Confessions available, Benediction, exhibits
Saturday - Mass, Sr. Jude, Bishop Cozzens, Fr. Mike, breakout sessions, music, fireworks
Sunday - Mass, Eucharistic Procession

Transportation
Meet the bus at St. Peter's (930 51st Ave N) in St. Cloud at 12:00 pm. Travel to Bemidji in comfort on a coach bus. Bus will take the group back and forth to the conference each day.

Sleeping Accommodations
Sleeping arrangements nearby in Walker, MN on beautiful Leech Lake. Hotel space is based on minimum double occupancy. Call for quote on single occupancy.

Meals
Light breakfasts and full dinners included. Lunch on your own. Water and snacks provided on the bus.

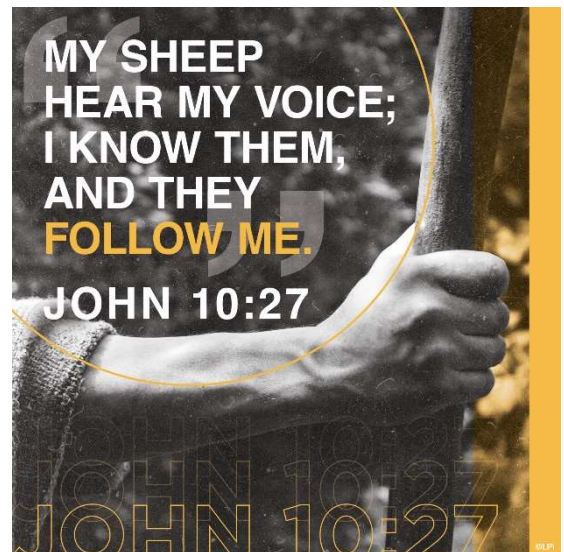
Cost
\$495.00/person based on a group of 40 minimum. Cost includes transportation, lodging, 5 meals and conference registration. Deadline is April 15 based on first come first serve basis.

BOOK NOW

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1-877-453-7426
www.jericochristianjourneys.com

JERICHO
CHRISTIAN JOURNEYS

**MY SHEEP
HEAR MY VOICE;
I KNOW THEM,
AND THEY
FOLLOW ME.**
JOHN 10:27



ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

9251 Hwy 25, P.O. Box 428

Pierz, MN 56364

Phone: 320-468-6033

E-mail: stjoes@midco.net

Website: www.stjosephs-stmichaels.org



SUNDAY, APRIL 21 at 8:00 a.m.

Lector: First Communion Students

E. Ministers: Donna Solinger & Randi Kranz

Servers: Westin & Ellie Hoheisel

Ushers for April: Brian Stangl, Gregg Stangl & Roger Janson

SCHEDULES AVAILABLE: Copies of the latest lector, eucharistic minister, and server schedules are printed off and located in the back of the church to take. Thank you all for your gift of serving St. Michael's Church!

ST. MICHAEL'S CEMETERY: To purchase St. Michael's Cemetery plots or columbarium niches please contact the parish office in Pierz (320)468-6033.

PRAYER LINE: If you are in need of prayers, please call Mary Brenny at 320-393-2781 or Mary Malinowski at 320-223-9783.

ST. MICHAEL WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP (April 7)

Adult	\$ 3,827.00
Easter	\$ 8,620.00
Holy Thursday	\$ 470.00
High School	\$ 6.00
Elementary	\$ 26.00
Plate	\$ 108.00
	\$13,057.00

March Electronic Contributions: \$ 1,020.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Mass attendance **April 7th Sunday:** 327

CATHOLIC Q&A: Angels

Question: I've heard that we become angels when we die. Is this what the Church teaches?

Answer: As human beings, we are both spiritual and corporeal. We are body and soul. This makes us unique in all creation. No other physical creature — plant or animal — possesses an immortal soul made in God's image and likeness. Like the distinction with plants and animals, angels have an entirely different sort of existence. Angels are pure immortal spirit, and they have been so since the moment of their creation. While they may take on an appearance of a body in Biblical history, they are not a body like we are. Angels are neither male nor female, despite the art we often see. As the result of the Fall, human beings experience death. Our souls are temporarily separated from our bodies. However, we do not become something other than human. Every Sunday in the Creed we profess "I believe in the resurrection of the body." As Jesus was united with his body on the third day, so too will we be united with our bodies at the end of time. ©LPi

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

68 Main St N, P.O. Box 428

Pierz, MN 56364

Phone: 320-468-6033

E-mail: stjoes@midco.net

Website: www.stjosephs-stmichaels.org



SUNDAY, APRIL 21 at 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Tracy Voigt

E. Ministers: Kristie Virnig, Jo Loidolt & Beth Fischer

Servers: Tyler Kimman & Logan Kimman

Sacristans: Keith Marshik

Ushers for April: Jon Stumpf (Lead), Robbie Becker, Gerard Kimman & Jason Sadlovsky

AT PEACE WITH GOD: *Eileen Tschida* passed away on March 26th. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, April 2nd at St. Andrew Catholic Church in Elk River with burial in St. Joseph's Church Pierz cemetery. *Arvin Litke* passed away on April 2nd. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Saturday, April 6th at St. Joseph's Church in Pierz with burial in the parish cemetery. We extend our sympathy to the families and assure them of our prayerful support.

ST. JOSEPHS QUILT CIRCLE: The final days of quilting will be on Monday April 15th at 1 p.m. and Thursday April 18th at 9 a.m. As we come to the end of another quilting season, we want to thank everyone who has helped this past year. In appreciation we invite anyone who has helped in any way, even if you did home projects, on Thursday April 18th to join us for a short demonstration and lunch following quilting at 9:00 a.m.

CEMETERY CLEANUP: Save the date for our community cemetery cleanup day on Wednesday, April 24th starting at 4 p.m. Please make sure to have everything out of the cemetery that you wish to put back up when the cleanup is finished. Call the parish office with any questions (320) 468-6033. Thank you for your cooperation. We hope to see you there!

PRAYER LINE: If you have a prayer line request, please either call Karen Gross at 320-468-6818 or email Rachel Young at rjyoung0521@gmail.com.

ST. JOSEPH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP (April 7)

Adult	\$ 3,218.50
Easter	\$ 7,535.00
Holy Thursday	\$ 102.00
High School	\$ 10.75
Elementary	\$ 6.50
Plate	\$ 252.00
	\$11,124.75

March Electronic Contributions: \$ 3,165.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Mass attendance **April 7th Sunday:** 346

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER



GENERAL NEWS

ANNIVERSARY WISHES: Congratulations to Marvin & Sylvia Burggraff who will be celebrating their 65th Wedding Anniversary at Mass at St. Joseph's church this weekend!

COUNCIL MEETINGS: Lastrup parish and finance council meetings will be on Wednesday, April 17th at 6 p.m. Harding parish and finance council meetings will be Wednesday, April 17th at 7:15 p.m. All will be at the **parish house in Lastrup.**

FAMILY ROSARY NIGHT: *The next Family Rosary Night will be **Saturday, April 27th** (due to 1st Communions the previous weekends) at 7:00p.m. at Roger & Janice Janson's residence (9093 260th Avenue, Pierz MN 56364) All are welcome, bring your family. Questions, call Janice at 320-630-6190. Gatherings start at 7:00pm with a potluck-style meal & fellowship. Fr. Aaron will join in after the 6:00 mass in Harding to lead the rosary. If you would like to volunteer to host an evening, please call or text Cari Stumpf at 320-761-6336.

ALL SCHOOL MASS: An All School Mass will be held on Tuesday, April 23 at 1:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church in Pierz. All Father Pierz School of Religion students in grades 1-6 will be attending. Everyone is invited!

THANK YOU: To the Knights of Columbus for putting on a breakfast for the Steubenville students! We can't thank you enough for your generosity and support for the youth!! Thank you to the generous donors who came to eat with the amazing breakfast! It was a free will offering and over \$3,256 was generously donated!!! Thank you thank you!!!

CENTRAL MN KOINONIA: Central Minnesota Koinonia is a weekend Catholic retreat program sponsored by the St Cloud Diocese and is designed for adults to help you on your faith journey. Retreats are held at the TEC Center north of Little Falls, Minnesota. The next English retreat will be held May 17-19, 2024, cost of the weekend is \$70.00. Go to www.centralmnkoinonia.org for more information and to register for retreats.

SPRING MISSION RALLY: April 25th from 8:00am-1:00pm at St. Rose of Lima Parish in St. Rosa, Minnesota. We would love to have you join us for a great day of fellowship, food, fair trade, and exploring our missionary vocation with Fr. Rodrigo Ulloa-Chavarry, M.M., Vocations Director for Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers. Registration forms are found on our website : stcloudmissionoffice.com.

GARAGE SALE DAYS: Pierz Area Garage Sales will be May 15-18, 2024. City of Pierz cleanup days will be May 18, 2024. To add your address to the garage sale list, stop by Pierz City Hall or go to www.pierzschools.org and click on Community Ed. Everyone in the Pierz School District is welcome.

ROSARY AT HARMONY HOUSE: Everyone is welcome to join us pray the rosary every Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Harmony House in Pierz (weather permitting). Sponsored by St. Michael's Christian Mothers/Women. Questions, call 468-2487.

JOB POSTING: PASTORAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Father Francis Xavier Pierz Area Catholic Community has a full-time salaried position open to assist the pastor in serving the pastoral needs of the four communities. Qualifications for this position are as follows: A love for Christ and his Church, a solid prayer life, skills in personal communication and evangelization, a hunger to bring others to Christ, organized, an ability to collaborate and be flexible to serve the mission of the Church.

Job Duties Include:

- Meeting with families and planning funeral liturgies.
- Coordinating and teaching OCIA or those searching in their faith life.
- Overseeing Homebound ministry.
- Coordinating the Marriage preparation program.
- Collaboration with the pastor and staff on daily operation, evangelism and general planning for the parishes.

Interested individuals may submit a letter of interest and resume to the parish office. For any questions regarding the position please contact the office or Father Aaron by phone (320) 468-6033 or email (frnett@midco.net).

ST. JOSEPH'S CUSTODIAL POSITION OPEN

St. Joseph's Church is seeking to hire a custodian for general building and maintenance work in and around the church. Applicants must have sufficient knowledge and abilities in cleaning, maintenance, repairs and overseeing in the parish. Those interested should contact St. Joseph's parish office by email (stjoes@midco.net) or phone (320-468-6033).

Prayer for the hiring of staff positions in the ACC:

"Spirit of wisdom and understanding, enlighten our minds to perceive the mysteries of the universe in relation to eternity. Spirit of right judgment and courage, guide us and make us firm in our baptismal decision to follow Jesus' way of love. Spirit of knowledge and reverence, help us to see the lasting value of justice and mercy in our everyday dealings with one another. May we respect life as we work to solve problems of family and nation, economy and ecology. Spirit of God, spark our faith, hope and love into new action each day. Fill our lives with wonder and awe in your presence which penetrates all creation. Amen."

AREA NEWS:

*Ramey Morrill Lions will be having a French Toast Breakfast on Sunday, April 21 at St. Joseph's Hall in Morrill from 8:30 to 12:00. Please join us and have French Toast, Thielen's Sausage, Scrambled Eggs and Hashbrowns. KidsEyeSight Screening will be available, crafters and recycling of old eyeglasses.

*Sisters of Life Mission: St. John in Foley is hosting the Sisters of Life on April 24th from 7-8:30pm. Come and enjoy a talk by a Sister, Adoration with music, and a social to follow. The Sisters of Life is a contemplative/active religious community of women founded for the protection and enhancement of the sacredness of every human life. All are welcome to attend!

Mini Holy Family Fest, August 16-18, 2024 on the Grounds of Holy Family Parish, Little Falls. The fest is for the whole family, camping, on site lodging, Holy Mass, Adoration, confessions, Music, Food, Games, Children and Youth Programs. To register go to

<https://afc.org/catholic-family-retreat-weekend/>

For more information go to havenofmercycatholic.org/mini-family-fest to watch last year's video or you can call 320-632-5720 or email hfoffice@havenofmercycatholic.org



80 Edward St. N., Pierz MN 56364, 320-468-6446

***COFFEE-** Regular (ground or bean) \$13.00, in French, Dark, or Medium Roast. Decaf (ground or bean) \$14.00.

***HTCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS-** Holy Trinity is looking for 2 new members for our Board of Directors; one from the Lastrup parish and one member at large (from any of the four parishes). The three-year term will start in August 2024. Expertise in the areas of finance and/or facility/maintenance preferred. Belief in the mission of Holy Trinity and Catholic education is a must. The position requires monthly meetings as well as committee assignments/meetings. This is a volunteer position. Please call/email the school office by May 1st if you are interested. (320) 468-6446 / office@holyltrinitypierz.org

***HTCS HIRING-** If you, or someone you know, is interested in a year round, part-time (25 hours per week) custodial position, please contact the office: office@holyltrinitypierz.org

***CAMP FOLEY PANCAKE BREAKFAST-** Sunday, April 28th from 8:30am-12:00pm at St. Michael Parish Hall in Buckman.

Raffle Calendar Winners:

4/7 \$75 John & Darlene Preimesberger, 4/8 \$35 Myra Falteysek, 4/9 \$35 Chris Banick, 4/10 \$35 Gabriel Rybaski, 4/11 \$35 Jason & Jackie Lashinski, 4/12 \$35 Kent & Stacy Happke, 4/13 \$35 Trent Soderman

*Father Pierz
School of Religion*



320-468-2640

***Wednesday, April 17th** – SH Pizza Ranch Fundraiser 4:30-7:30 p.m. (9th & 10th Graders)

***April 20, 21, 22** – TEC Retreat LF
***Wednesday, April 24th** – 11th Grade Confirmation Mini Retreat 6-8 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church in Pierz.

**LOOK WHAT'S NEW
IN THE ACC!**



Left: Pictures are from Camp Shamineau! Students from FPSR and Little Falls joined together for a night to celebrate Palm Sunday, adoration, praise & worship, confession & grow in fellowship together!

Right: Bennett Kyle, child of Kyle & Nicole Welle, was recently baptized. Welcome to our faith community!

